

MAY 2013

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Dear Friends,

For the past 15 years, teachers, school administrators, artists and parents have gathered together at MAC's Whole Schools Initiative's Summer Institute to engage in arts experiences that demonstrate the many ways the arts can be used as a tool for learning in every classroom for every child. This year's Whole Schools Summer Institute "Getting to the Core of a 21st Century Education," focuses on integrating the Common Core State Standards and 21st Century skills needed to be college and career ready. This focus, coupled with arts integration strategies, will prepare our teachers to educate our students to create a better future for Mississippi.



One of the goals of the Whole Schools Initiative is to provide professional development for teachers so they will be comfortable enough to integrate the arts in all subject areas. The approach begins with the four disciplines: visual art, music, dance/movement and theatre/drama. The elements or vocabulary of the discipline are shared, demonstrated, and "tried on" with the teachers. During the summer institute, over 300 attendees gather to learn about the disciplines through hands-on experiences to increase their comfort level and awareness in the four art forms.

An innovative new track developed for teachers who work with students with disabilities is being provided by funds from the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

We would like to extend a sincere "thank you" to the Mississippi Department of Education, the Hardin Foundation, and the Riley Foundation for their generous contributions to this work. Their support allows newly created workshops to be developed for teachers who work in pre-k to 8th grade, parents, cultural institutions, and artists who work in schools

The WSI Institute will be held in Meridian at the Mississippi State University Riley Center for Education and Performing Arts July 15-18, 2013. For more information about the 15th Annual Whole Schools Initiative Summer Institute, visit www.mswholeschools.org.

Sincerely,

Jodie Engle, Director
MAC's Whole Schools Initiative

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My first experience with the Whole Schools Summer Institute was four years ago in Oxford, MS. I remember this experience being the most beneficial professional development for me as a teacher. That summer I took the course titled "Teacher as Actor." Those who know me know that I am not a spur of the moment actress. I have always loved theatre but have never been great at improvisation. I took this class with several others at our school and, to my surprise, was completely taken out of my box and learned to think and act quickly. These were definitely skills I wanted my students to learn to feel comfortable doing around each other. I grew personally and professionally with this summer institute. Most importantly, I discovered new ways my students could learn and be assessed that were not paper and pencil methods. I learned how to create experiences that my students would remember because they had made a connection. Each professional development offered has served as a rejuvenating tool for myself and has given me new tools to add to my bank of ideas. My students are learning through different art experiences and connecting standards directly to the things they love.

Mary Katherine Russell
5th grade teacher at Saltillo Elementary



This year will be the 6th consecutive year I have been able to attend the WSI summer institute. Each year I learn new and innovative ways to integrate the arts into the ever changing Mississippi core curriculum. I am a 4th grade math, science, and social studies teacher. One of the most beneficial tracks I have taken dealt with "Bringing our Heritage Home." Since I teach Mississippi studies, I felt like it was custom made for me! The track was based around famous MS writers, musicians, and artists. We learned everything from building a Jim Henson inspired puppet while learning about simple machines to writing an Elvis inspired blues song that touched numerous language arts skills. I learned so much from this track and the ladies that taught it. I have used each lesson in my personal classroom and used many of them as springboards to help me develop my own arts integrated lessons.

Maggie Dickson
4th grade teacher at Saltillo Elementary

MAC Introduces Mississippi Blues Trail Curriculum



The Mississippi Arts Commission has launched its new Mississippi Blues Trail Curriculum online. The 18-lesson Mississippi Blues Trail Curriculum along with an interactive, multi-media resource page is available free of charge at www.msbluestrail.org/curriculum. Three lessons were developed for each of the six core areas: Music, Meaning, Cotton, Transportation, Civil Rights and Media.

Curriculum designer Dr. Mark Malone and historian Scott Barretta teamed up with the Mississippi Arts Commission's Folk and Traditional Arts Program to develop lesson plans which explore Mississippi History through the lens of the Mississippi Blues Trail. The curriculum is designed specifically for 4th grade students studying Mississippi History. However, teachers may modify the lessons to accommodate students through the 12th grade.

The MAC was granted a \$20,000 Folk Arts Infrastructure Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to support the development of the Curriculum. The project is directed by Mary Margaret White, MAC Folk and Traditional Arts Director, mmwhite@arts.ms.gov.

Congratulations Delta Blues Museum



Travis Calvin, left, and Shelly Ritter, executive director of the Delta Blues Museum in Clarksdale, accept a 2013 National Medal for Museum and Library Service from First Lady Michelle Obama at the White House on Wednesday, May 8th.



Craft Emergency Relief Fund is a great source for artists who are facing emergency issues. Be sure to keep this reference handy just in case! www.craftemergency.org.

calendar of events may

Mississippi Community Symphonic Band concert

May 18, 2013

7 PM

Belhaven Ctr for Arts,
835 Riverside Dr,
Jackson

GRAND PATRIOTIC SALUTE-TO-THE-MILITARY CONCERT!

May 18, 2013

7 PM

Christ UMC, 6000 Old
Canton Rd, Jackson
39211

Great Big Yam Potatoes Old-Time Music Gathering

May 18th

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Historic Jefferson
College, Washington,
MS

State of Mississippi Bluegrass

Championships

May 18, 2013

10 a.m.

Union County
Fairgrounds

Mass in B Minor by Johann Sebastian Bach

May 18 and 19

May 18-3:00PM, May 19-
7:00PM

St. Philip's, Jackson

New Stage Theatre presents Hairspray

May 28-June 9, 2013

Wed-Sat 7:30pm; Sun
2pm

New Stage, Jackson

"Nonsense -- The Mega- Musical Version"

May 31-June 2

8pm May 31-June 1, 2pm
June 2

Corinth Theatre-Arts,
Corinth, MS

calendar of events

june

**The Yokshop: A
Writer's Workshop**
June 7-9
10:00am – 10:00pm
Oxford, MS

**Mississippi Summer
Arts Institute: Arts
Camp**

June 16-29, 2013
Delta State University,
Cleveland, MS

**Ballet Mississippi's
Summer Workshop,
Ages 3-5**

June 17-20
9:00 - noon
Mississippi Arts Center –
Jackson

**Ballet Mississippi's
Summer Workshop,
Ages 10 & up**

June 17 - 28
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Mississippi Arts Center –
Jackson

**Summer Arts Camp
Ages 11-18**

June 17-21 & June 24-28
9am-12pm, 1pm-4pm, or
all day

JULY

**Ballet Mississippi
Summer Workshops**

July 15 - 18
9:00 - noon
Mississippi Arts Center –
Jackson

Forever Plaid

July 18 thru 28
Tues thru Sat 7:30 Sun
2:00pm
Center Stage Theatre
Biloxi.

Nominations now being accepted for 2014 Governor's Arts Awards

The Governor's Arts Awards honor outstanding artists and organizations while celebrating Mississippi's vast cultural heritage. To nominate a deserving individual or organization, visit <http://www.arts.ms.gov/special-projects/governors-awards.php>. Deadline June 28, 2013!



National Endowment for the Arts Announces Funding for States and Regions for Fiscal Year 2013

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Acting Chairman Joan Shigekawa recently announced that the NEA will award \$45,085,105 in partnership agreements to fund 54 state and jurisdictional arts agencies and six regional arts organizations throughout the country. These funds will support grants and programs at the 60 agencies for fiscal year 2014.

MAC will receive over \$700,000 from the federal agency for the coming fiscal year to assist in providing grant funds to our constituents.

MAC is grateful to the NEA and also the Mississippi Legislature for the continued support. The funds allow us to continue to support and celebrate Mississippi's creative and innovative spirit!

Lauren Rogers Museum of Art Unveils Chihuly Glass



On May 1st, Lauren Rogers Museum of Art in Laurel unveiled the newest addition to their permanent collection - an exquisite Dale Chihuly Chandelier. This is definitely worth a trip to Laurel...not to mention the rest of their amazing collection!

Crayola Announces Champion Creatively Alive Children Grant Opportunity for Educators



The 2013 program provides grants for innovative, creative leadership team building within elementary schools. Apply now for the opportunity to receive a grant for your school. Each grant-winning school (up to 20 grants awarded) receives \$2,500 and Crayola products valued at \$1,000.

For more information visit: http://www.crayola.com/for-educators/ccac-landing/grant-program.aspx?utm_content=newsletter_grants%20&utm_source=cheetah&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=art_educators0513 or contact Barb Reinke, Education Marketing Manager, Central Region Crayola, LLC at 913-685-0183 or breinke@crayola.com.

The Kennedy Center



This program is provided under a
contract with The John F. Kennedy
Center for the Performing Arts

Innovative Partnership Provides Training for Teachers

MAC's Whole Schools Initiative and VSA Mississippi are partnering to provide an outstanding professional learning opportunity for teachers across the state, along with Mississippi teaching artists. The program, specifically for teachers who work with students with disabilities, is provided through a \$25,000 contract with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington DC. Programming will focus on arts integration strategies and Universal Design for Learning principles which will create a student-focused environment and encourage all students to participate in critical thinking, collaboration and other 21st Century Skills.

Six teaching artists from the Mississippi Arts Commission Teaching Artist Roster were recently trained in Common Core State Standards, Universal Design Learning Principles, arts-integration and to work with students who have a variety of abilities and challenges.

The teaching artists participating include Jo Patterson, Chuck Galey, Richelle Putnam, Terrance Roberts, Jerry Jenkins and Brenda Pritchett. For more information, contact WSI Director, Jodie Engle – jengle@arts.ms.gov. This is extremely important work and MAC is proud to be a partner!

MAC FY13 Visual Arts Fellowship Recipient, Paul Fayard, is featured in the MAC Gallery through the end of June, and we will host a reception on Thursday, June 13th from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in our offices on the 11th floor of the Woolfolk State Office Building. Come see this amazing work!



The Mississippi Arts Hour can be heard on Sundays at 3pm on Mississippi Public Broadcasting's Think Radio. Find the station nearest you by visiting mpbonline.org. The show can also be heard on MAC's website and through Apple's iTunes

Upcoming shows

May 19
Larry Morrissey talks with David Dennis, Jr on hip-hop in Mississippi

May 26
Diane Williams talks with MS Museum of Art's Julian Rankin on the "Old Masters to Monet" exhibit

MAC's Visual Arts Directory Featured_Artist

Rachel Ballentine

mississippi arts commission

501 North West Street
Suite 1101A
Woolfolk Building
Jackson, MS 39201

PHONE:
601/359-6030

FAX:
601/359-6008

WEBSITE:
www.arts.ms.gov

In 1968, the Mississippi Legislature created the Mississippi Arts Commission as the official grants-making and service agency for the arts. Since then the Commission has broadened its role as an active supporter and promoter of the arts in community life and arts education.

MAC's mission is to be a catalyst for the arts and creativity in Mississippi and the agency's vision is to support and celebrate Mississippi's creative and innovative spirit



Ballentine states, "As I gathered the clay chips, sand and some rocks, I felt the sun shining upon me as a golden glow slowly covered my whole being, moving with me as I placed each chip into the containers. This experience sent me on a spiritual high. Each time that I wedge this dug clay, I find myself going into another realm. It is as if the Spirit-Self has taken control. My body knows that I am there because of the perspiration on my forehead. My arms let me know that I am doing the physical work." Ballentine is from Sardis, MS and is a member of the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi.

The Mississippi Arts Commission provides listings on this site as a courtesy to Mississippi-based artists and arts organizations. However, their inclusion does not represent an endorsement or funding by the agency. The Commission reserves the right to edit or reject any submission and is not responsible for the accuracy of the information provided by the artists or organizations. Artists and galleries featured are randomly selected. Visit the site at www.visualarts.ms.gov.

Attention parents! Why not use this opportunity to have a conversation about art with your kids? Here are some questions about this piece compiled by visual art specialist, Gena Yarbrough, from Saltillo.

What might the writing mean to the artist?

What is the vessel from and how do you think it was made?

What might be the purpose of the written inscriptions?

Arts-Related Job opportunities

Executive Director, Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art

OOMA seeks an energetic and creative leader to develop and implement strategies which will move this museum from construction phase to a vibrant, sustainable organization.

Job Requirements

- A Master's Degree in art, art history, museum studies, or a related discipline. A familiarity with 20th and 21st century American ceramic history would be helpful.
- At least five years of experience in progressively senior positions at an art museum, academic institution or other non-profit arts organization.

No phone calls. Please send cover letter and resume by email AND land mail to:
finance@georgeohr.org / Subject Line: Director Search